

House Resolution 2332

By: Representative Smith of the 113th

A RESOLUTION

1 Recognizing and commending Mr. Michael J. Eckert; and for other purposes.

2 WHEREAS, Mr. Michael J. Eckert demonstrates a passionate commitment to rejuvenating
3 Georgia's economy through the promotion and development of Georgia-based, early-stage
4 high-tech companies; and

5 WHEREAS, Mr. Eckert earned a bachelor's degree from Northern Illinois University and has
6 conducted postgraduate work at Northern Illinois University, DePaul University, Harvard
7 University, Ohio State University, the University of Virginia, the University of Georgia, the
8 University of South Carolina, and the Center for Creative Leadership; and

9 WHEREAS, he serves as a Venture Fellow and Entrepreneur in Residence with the
10 Advanced Technology Development Center (ATDC), where he works with entities in a
11 significant number of leading edge technology categories dealing with subjects ranging from
12 developing a business plan, securing strategic partnerships, developing sales channels,
13 securing and protecting IP addresses, and raising capital; and

14 WHEREAS, prior to joining the ATDC team, Mr. Eckert served as CEO of the Weather
15 Channel for 14 years, growing the channel into one of the leading media brand names in
16 America, helping expand the channel through the launch of weather.com and wireless
17 technologies, and expanding the channel to Canada, Europe, and Latin America; and

18 WHEREAS, Mr. Eckert's leadership and guidance have been instrumental to the Technology
19 Association of Georgia's Board of Directors and Government Relations Task Force and the
20 Georgia Research Alliance; and

21 WHEREAS, he has served as CEO of Pathfire, Inc., an Atlanta technology start up which
22 provided software services related to the digitization and distribution of video for Hollywood
23 studios and television news organizations; and

24 WHEREAS, Mr. Eckert is united in love and marriage to Janis Kamps Eckert and has been
25 blessed with three remarkable children, Morgan, Eric, and Jake; and

26 WHEREAS, it is abundantly fitting and proper that the extraordinary accomplishments of
27 this distinguished Georgian be appropriately recognized.

28 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES that
29 the members of this body commend Mr. Michael J. Eckert for his amazing entrepreneurial
30 spirit and recognize his dedication to expanding and developing technology businesses.

31 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Clerk of the House of Representatives is authorized
32 and directed to transmit an appropriate copy of this resolution to Mr. Michael J. Eckert.